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FROST'S TRANSLATION OF SCHEINER'S SPECTRAL-ANALYSIS.

Professor E. B. FROST, of Dartmouth College, has done a great service to English speaking astronomers and spectroscopists by translating Dr. SCHEINER'S *Die Spectralanalyse der Gestirne.* The original work appeared in 1890 and at once took an important place as a text-book for students and as a summary of results for astronomers. The science of spectroscopy is advancing so rapidly in precision and so many new results have been acquired that a new edition was much needed. Mr. FROST'S translation is, in fact, a complete revision; and the work in its present form brings the subject well up to date, and presents it in a very convenient form. At a future time, it is hoped to print in these *Publications* an adequate review of this treatise. For the present, we must congratulate the author, the translator, and the publishers on its appearance. It should be in all astronomical libraries.

It is an interesting evidence of the increased attention paid to astronomy in the United States that this treatise was first translated by an American and issued by an American publisher.

E. S. H.

August 15, 1894.

MAP OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF MOUNT HAMILTON.

Mrs. CAROLINE STEVENS WALTER, the editor of the *Santa Clara*, has kindly presented to the A. S. P. the electrotype from which the accompanying map of the vicinity of Mount Hamilton is printed. Many of our foreign members will be glad to see this diagram which shows how the Observatory is situated with respect to neighboring towns. E. S. H.

VISITORS TO THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

The Society of "Native Sons" of California met in San José on September 9, 10, 11. At the request of the local Committee on Arrangements, they were invited to the Observatory on September 11, and a party of fifty took advantage of the invitation.

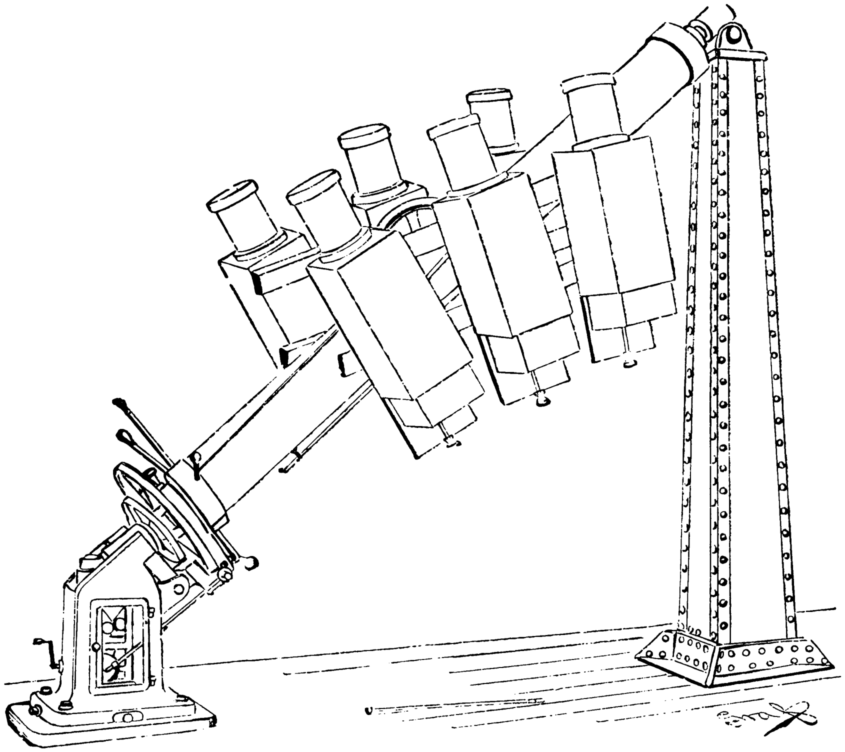
E. S. H.

APPARATUS FOR PHOTOGRAPHING METEORS.

"A new instrument, termed a sextuple photographic telescope, is about to leave this city for New Haven, Conn. It will be placed in Yale College Observatory, and though intended for general astronomical photography, will begin its picture-taking with the appearance of the August meteoric displays. The instrument was made by WARNER & SWASEY, and was boxed for shipment yesterday. In certain respects it stands unique among photographic telescopes. It has six cameras, instead of one, and together they cover a field in the sky equal to that which would be occupied by 2400 full moons. By its use on the meteors the astronomers of Yale expect to develop some new facts relating to their heights. They will place single telescopes at distances of two miles from the sextuple instrument, and, by means of electrical connections, will photograph simultaneously. The plates will then be compared, and calculations will be made with a view to establishing the height of meteors.

In the new astronomy, in which is included astronomical photography, the sensitive plate often has to be exposed from one to three hours to enable it to gather the light from the finest stars and imprint it on the plate. This is necessarily a tedious piece of work for the astronomer, as he must watch the plate very carefully during the entire exposure. Dr. W. L. ELKIN, of Yale College Observatory, wishing to accomplish more in the same space of time, devised the plan by which six photographic telescopes could be placed in one mounting. Each of these carries a plate which will cover a space of ten degrees square in the heavens. These cameras are so arranged as to have the field of one just reach the edge of the field of its neighbor, so that at one setting the six photographic telescopes will cover a field of 600 square degrees in the sky, and, as they are all carried on one equatorial mounting, the care exercised in operating them is no more than if a single telescope was being used. This plan of Dr. ELKIN has been carried out at the works of WARNER & SWASEY.

The picture illustrating this unique instrument will be easily understood by any one familiar with astronomical instruments. The long axis supported at both ends is set so as to point exactly to the north pole of the heavens. This is made to revolve by means of a driving clock inside the small column at the left hand of the instrument. The weight which serves as a motive power for this driving clock is carried in the tall column at the right hand side of the illustration. The instrument is provided with finely graduated circles so as to enable the astronomer to set



THE SEXTUPLE PHOTOGRAPHIC TELESCOPE.

the photographic telescopes on any portion of the heavens he desires.

A dull black finish was given to the tubes of the telescope, and this, contrasting with the brightly polished brass of the clock work and wheels, combines to make the instrument a handsome one. When in place it will be furnished with lenses and plates suited for the work to which it is intended. One operator will be sufficient to manage it, inasmuch as the plates can be placed in readiness before the exposure, and the handling of the telescope will be rendered easy. Professor NEWTON, who is also deeply interested in meteors, will co-operate with Dr. ELKIN. They expect to attain valuable results."—From the *Cleveland Leader*, July 18, 1894.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM M. FLAMMARION RELATIVE TO THE ECLIPSE COMET OF 1893, AND TO BRIGHT PROJECTIONS ON THE TERMINATOR OF *MARS*.

[*Translation.*]

"OBSERVATORY OF JUVISY, August 28, 1894.

"DEAR MR. HOLDEN:

"As soon as your letter, relating to the small comet detected on the American negatives of the eclipse, was received, I asked for the information which you desired regarding the negatives of the two French expeditions to Senegal. All the plates have been examined with care, but nothing has been found on any of them. Possibly the comet had passed behind or in front of the Sun at the hour of the Senegal observations. Perhaps, again, the meteorological conditions at Senegal were the cause. You know that the atmosphere was [then] very highly illuminated.

"We are now making some interesting observations of *Mars*. During the night of 22 to 23 August, we—M. ANTONIADI and myself—have seen a swelling of the terminator towards 45° Lat. S., and 355° Long., which corresponds to *Noachis*. It seems that there are surely mountains in this place.

* * * * * * *

C. FLAMMARION."